

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 042805

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI, MMOL

SUBJECT: NADREPS CONSIDERATION OF DEMARCATION OF RE-
SPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN CNAD AND MAS, AND FORMATION OF A
GROUP OF NATIONAL DIRECTORS OF MATERIEL STANDARDIZATION
(GNDMS)

REF: A. USNATO 703, B. AC/259 - D/546, C. AC/259-D/512
D. AC/259 -WP/24 E. STATE 014501, F. USNATO 704

1. THE U.S. POSITION IS STILL THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE
THE GNDMS FORMED AND THAT THE PROPOSAL TO RESOLVE THE
DEMARCATION ISSUE BEFORE UNDERTAKING GNDMS IS NEITHER
NECESSARY NOR DEMANDED BY THE CNAD TASKING.

2. WE AGREE WITH MISSION OBSERVATION IN REF A THAT REF B
IS A DOCUMENT WHICH COULD BE IMPROVED. HOWEVER, WE BE-
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LIEVE THAT FAR MORE TIME AND EFFORT HAS NOW BEEN EXPENDED
ON THE QUESTION OF MAS /CNAD INTERFACE THAN THE PROBLEM
WARRANTS. INDEED, IT HAS ALWAYS APPEARED TO US THAT THE
PROBLEM WAS PERHAPS MORE APPARENT THAN REAL.

3. AS DISCUSSED IN PARA 8 AND 9 OF REF D, A FORMAL CO-
ORDINATION GROUP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF THE

ASG/DS, THE DIRECTOR IMS, AND THE DUAL-HATTED CHAIRMAN

MAS/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF IMS FOR ASI DIVISION WHICH HAS THE TASK OF OVERSEEING AND COORDINATING THE WORK OF THE IS/NAC/DPC GROUPS AND THE IMS/NMA'S GROUPS IN THE AREAS OF ARMAMENTS, STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY. THIS GROUP, IN OUR VIEW, IS ADEQUATE TO ENSURE COORDINATION, AND PREVENT OVERLAP OF WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE CNAD AND MAS. IN ANY CASE, IT APPEARS TO US UNWISE TO CONTINUE DEFERRING AGREEMENT ON A DEMARCATION DOCUMENT IF NATIONS COULD ACCEPT ANNEX C OF REF B.

4. THE STUDY AT REF C MAKES QUITE CLEAR WHERE THE MORE OR LESS PERMANENT ACSM BOUNDARY BETWEEN CNAD AND MAS SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE DRAWN, I.E., WITH THE GNDMS UNDER CNAD DEALING WITH ENGINEERING/DESIGN ACSM STANAGS, AND MAS DEVELOPING STANAGS PERTAINING TO CURRENT MILITARY ACSM. THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO AC/259-D/100 AT ANNEX C TO REF B WOULD ACCOMMODATE THIS QUITE ADEQUATELY.

5. WE BELIEVE THAT THE MISSION SHOULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING APPROACH:

A. ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE NATIONS THAT THE RESOLUTION OF CURRENT QUESTIONS OF DEMARCATION BETWEEN THE CNAD AND MAS SHOULD NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF ESTABLISHING THE GNDMS UNDER CNAD. POINT OUT THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STEERING GROUP IN HANDLING SPECIFIC DEMARCATION AND COORDINATION QUESTIONS.

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B. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT REF B COULD HAVE BEEN A STRONGER PAPER, ATTEMPT TO GET AGREEMENT THAN IN THE INTERESTS OF PROVIDING REASONABLE CURRENT CLARIFICATION OF DEMARCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES NOW, REF B SHOULD BE ACCEPTED AND AC/259-D/100 SHOULD BE MODIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX C TO REF B. ANNEX C TO REF B IS BROAD ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE MOST DEMARCATION MATTERS, AND ANY FURTHER MAJOR QUESTIONS OF DEMARCATION CAN BE ADDRESSED LATER AS THEY MAY ARISE.

C. CONTINUE TO TRY TO GET AGREEMENT THAT ACTION ON THE FORMATION OF THE GNDMS SHOULD BE TAKEN NOW, INDEPENDENT OF ANY BROADER DEMARCATION QUESTIONS, SINCE THE STUDY AT REF C PROVIDES A CLEAR AND WORKABLE PROPOSAL FOR DEMARCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE ACSM AREA. AS MENTIONED IN REF E, YOU MAY WELL FIND THAT APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF THE STUDY GROUP WHICH PRODUCED REF C, MAY BE HELPFUL IN PROVIDING CONVINCING ORAL ARGUMENTS TO THE NADREPS ON THE FORMATION

OF THE GNDMS UNDER CNAD.

6. HOWEVER, IF WE ARE LIMITED TO CHOOSING BETWEEN THE TWO

POSSIBLE COURSES OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 5 OF REFERENCE F, WE
WOULD PREFER THE COURSE OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 5A.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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